

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-02 EUR-12
/154 W

-----081211 230502Z /10

R 221832Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1352

UNCLAS KINGSTON 4225

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ECRE, JM
SUBJECT: SWISS/GERMAN CONSORTIUM AWARDED CONTRACT FOR
HYDRO-ELECTRIC POTENTIAL STUDY

REF: 76 KINGSTON A-41

1. A CONSORTIUM, COMPRISING OF SWISS FIRM, MOTOR-COLUMBUS
AG AND THE GERMAN COMOANY LAYMEYER INTERNATIONAL GMBH HAS
BEEN AWARDED THE CONTRACT TO CARRY OUT FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON
A NUMBER OF RIVERS IN WESTERN AND CENTRAL JAMAICA FOR THE
POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER STATIONS. THE
CONTRACT COSTING US\$316,000 IS BEING FUNDED FROM THE JAMAICA
PRE-INVESTMENT FUND WHICH HAS BEEN BOLSTERED BY GRANTS FROM
THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK.

2. THE STUDIES HAVE ALREADY STARTED AND ARE EXPECTED TO
BE COMPLETED WITHIN EIGHT MONTHS.

3. THE RIVERS INVOLVED ARE THE YS IN ST. ELIZABETH,
RIO MINHO IN CLARENDON, GREAT RIVER IN HANOVER AND ST. JAMES,
MARTHA BRAE IN TRELAWNY AND THE RIO COBRE IN ST. CATHERINE.
THE CONSORTIUM IS TO ALSO LOOK AT THE EXISTING PLANTS ON WHITE
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RIVER AND RIO BUENO TO DETERMINE IF EXPANSION IS POSSIBLE.
THE STUDY WILL INVOLVE LOOKING AT HYDROLOGY, GEOLOGY, TOPOGRAPHY
AND WATER MANAGEMENT ON THE VARIOUS RIVERS WITH A LOOK AT THE
'RUN-OF-THE-RIVER' THE BASIC DETERMINANT. ONLY THE RIO MINHO
HAS POTENTIAL OF STORAGE FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES.

4. DRILLING FOR DAM SITES POSSIBILITIES ARE TO BE CARRIED

OUT ON THE GREAT RIVER, THE MARTHA BRAE, RIO COBRE AND
RIO MINHO.

5. ONLY ABOUT 10-18 PER CENT OF THE ISLAND'S ELECTRICITY
IS GENERATED BY WATER. THE AMOUNT DEPENDS ON WEATHER CONDITION
WHICH AFFECTS THE FLOW OF WATER IN THE RIVERS. POWER
STATIONS ARE LOCATED ON THE MAGGOTTY RIVER, RIO BUENO,
WHITE RIVER AND ROARING RIVER.
HAVERKAMP

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSORTIUMS, CONTRACTS, STUDIES, HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KINGST04225
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780216-0457
Format: TEL
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780534/aaaabchz.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1dbf8a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 KINGSTON A-41
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2618382
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWISS/GERMAN CONSORTIUM AWARDED CONTRACT FOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC POTENTIAL STUDY
TAGS: ECRE, ENRG, JM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1dbf8a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014